

Resolution Writing

—

Basics

Basics introduction

The things that you need to
know

Introduction of the resolution

Preambulatory clauses

Operative clauses

Introduction

This is where you say the topic/forum/state that you represent, the layout is as follows:

QUESTION OF: [INSERT TOPIC]

SUBMITTED BY: [INSERT YOUR COUNTRY]

CO-SUBMITTED BY: [INSERT YOUR CO-SUBMITTERS COUNTRY NAMES] This is not always necessary due to the fact that you may not have time and these don't really change the resolution at all

THE [INSERT YOUR FORUM HERE] COMMITTEE/COMMISSION,

Preambulatory clauses (Preams)

These set out things that should be known before starting debate. These do NOT do anything about the issue.

Ideologically: These are important points of the resolution that everyone pays attention to

Reality: Delegates only read them if they know nothing on the topic

Operative phrases are always italicized

Each clause ends with a comma

Preambulatory phrases

Affirming	Expressing its appreciation	Noting with regret
Alarmed by	Expressing its satisfaction	Noting with deep concern
Approving	Fulfilling	Noting with satisfaction
Aware of	Fully alarmed	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Fully aware	Noting with approval
Believing	Fully believing	Observing
Confident	Further deploring	Reaffirming
Contemplating	Further recalling	Realising
Convinced	Guided by	Recalling

Preambulatory phrases cont.

Declaring

Having adopted

Recognising

Deeply concerned

Having considered

Referring

Deeply conscious

Having considered further

Seeking

Deeply disturbed

Having devoted attention

Taking into account

Deeply Regretting

Having examined

Taking into consideration

Desiring

Having received

Taking note

Emphasising

Having studied

Viewing with appreciation

Expecting

Keeping in mind

Welcoming

Operative clauses

These state the actual things that you want to achieve in the resolution and how you plan to solve the issue at hand.

This is where most (if not all) of the debate should take place

Unlike Preams each clause is numbered, and the operative phrase is underlined it can also be made bold

You can have sub-clauses and sub-sub-clauses but you cannot go any further

Sub-clauses do not need to start with an operative phrase

You cannot repeat an operative phrase

Operative phrases

Accepts

Expresses its appreciation

Supports

Affirms

Expresses its hope

Takes note of

Approves

Further invites

Transmits

Asks

Further proclaims

Trusts

Authorises

Further reminds

Urges

Calls

Further recommends

Security council only:

Calls upon

Further requests

Condemns

Confirms

Further resolves

Demands

Strongly condemns

Operative phrases cont.

Congratulates

Emphasises

Reaffirms

Considers

Encourages

Recommends

Declares accordingly

Endorses

Regrets

Deplores

Has resolved

Reminds

Designates

Notes

Requests

Draws attention to

Proclaims

Solemnly affirms

Peculiarities

Peculiarities introduction

Things that you need to bare in
mind

There's no point in writing a
resolution if it's not going to be
debated.

Fellow delegates will expect a
number of things

Length

Delegates will immediately judge your resolution on its length

Never leave a clause less than one and a half lines long (your clauses will probably be weak)

5 Preams is usually enough

10 clauses is sometimes the limit (including sub-clauses)

Royal Russell Conference does not allow you to go above 15 clauses including sub-clauses

Definitions

It is usually best to put simple definitions into the Preams

If the definition is regarding terrorism or refugees it's usually better to put them into the operatives (this is because they are usually the definitions that delegates fight over)

You cannot pass a resolution on a group of people without defining who counts as one of those people

A safe bet is to use definitions that have been used in resolutions before hand (they will have been thought through in a better way and are usually agreed on by all member states)

Layout

The layout is simple:

- 1.Introduction to the Reso
- 2.Preambulatory clauses
- 3.Operative clauses

It is usually better to put the most important clauses early on and the less important later in the resolution (delegates will typically only focus on the first few clauses when lobbying)

Formatting

Preams:

The Preambulatory phrase is italicized,

The clauses are not numbered,

Each clause ends with a comma including the last clause,

NOTE - No full stops:

The whole reso is 1 sentence so no full stops should be used,

Operatives:

1 The operative phrase is underlined (and bold if you wish)

2 Clauses are numbered

2 i) Subclauses are numbered in roman numerals or ordered with letters

3 Each clause ends with a semicolon apart from the last which has a full stop.

Specialised bodies

Only the Security Council can demand that things are done

The ICJ only refers to countries that have ratified the court

The ICC refers to individual persons that have committed the main crimes that are tried in the ICC (ie. War Crimes / Crimes Against Humanity)

UN agencies can be used when wanted but look for an actual body before you make one up

NGO's can always be used when relevant

Tips

Tips introduction

How to write a resolution in an
easy way

There is of course research but there is also a way to tone down reasearch and still get the same amount of content.

Use the available resources

Check old resolutions but DON'T just copy any of the clauses.

If the conference has made study guides use them.

Speak to the older/more experienced MUNers if you need help.

Copy and paste the issue into google and you can find past UN resolutions on the issue. Again DON'T copy, but you will find good ideas.

Use the Internet (wikipedia is good but facts need to be treated with suspicion and sources checked)

Post-it note strategy (how Georgia writes her resos)

This makes it easier to order your ideas and makes your reso more readable and easier for you to write as you know you're not repeating ideas:

- When doing research write down each area you think needs to be combatted on separate post it notes,
- Once you've reached about 10 post-it notes, first put together any clauses which are linked and then order the ideas from most important to least,
- Write your reso according to the structure that you have set out.

How to expand your clauses

This is a big issue particularly seen as delegates judge on the size of your clauses

- You could use longer words - this is pretty weak as more experienced delegates will see right through this method - but it does work when trying to make clauses longer
- Although you shouldn't need to explain why you are proposing something it is good to show what problem will be solved by following your suggestion. This will not only stop annoying 'clarification' questions but it also makes you look like you know what you're doing
- Use sub-clauses to expand on methods such as use of media or attempts at transparency. (...using, although not limited to, one of the following methods ...)